April 26, 2004

DETECTABLE WARNINGS FOR CURB RAMPS, AND OTHER LOCATIONS

COUNTY ENGINEERS/SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS # 04-05 MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS/DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS CONSULTING ENGINEERS

As of July, 26, 2001 the United States Department of Justice allowed the temporary suspension for truncated domes on sidewalk curb ramps to expire. Consequently, they are again required by law and no other forms of detectable warnings are allowed. To ensure compliance, the Bureau of Design and Environment issued (BDE) issued BDE Procedure Memorandum 35-03 outlining new procedures for all curb ramps or other specified locations constructed or improved as part of any State highway project effective January 1, 2004. The new procedures require the use of truncated domes in Federal Standard color 30166, brick red, on all state highway projects. Highway Standard 424001 and ISP 04-30, both entitled "Curb Ramps for Sidewalks" are being used to fulfill these requirements. ISP 04-30 uses concrete stamping methods to construct truncated domes. Copies of these documents are attached.

Even though this policy only impacts state highway projects, the federal Americans with Disabilities Act Accessible Guideline (ADAAG) requirement applies to all highway projects. Therefore, all future local agency projects must include truncated domes of contrasting color at curb ramps on all sidewalks and shared-use trails.

The Central Bureau of Local Roads & Streets is working with local agency associations to develop a policy for local agency projects that will allow methods and/or materials other than stamped concrete to meet the truncated dome requirement. Until this policy is issued, local agencies must comply with ADAAG. It is recommended that Highway Standard 424001 and ISP 04-30 be used. Any color variation requests should be directed to your district field engineer.

A stamped concrete truncated dome instructional video, V182 "Detectable Warnings on Walking Surfaces" from Stampcrete, is available from the Technology Transfer's (T²) video library. For order information, go to T² video web page at www.dot.il.gov/blr/library.html.

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Sincerely,

Charles J. Ingersoll, P. E.

Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

Attachment

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cc: Mike Hine, Bureau of Design & Environment